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President Bill Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

HHS / FDA
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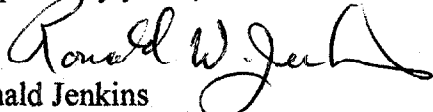
Dear President Clinton:

I am a small business owner in Vallejo, providing hearing health care services to hundreds of hearing-impaired Americans in California. I understand that the Food and Drug Administration, after more than eight years of rewriting, is now rushing to propose new rules governing the way hearing aids are sold in this country.

Ironically, the FDA rule would reportedly impede access to hearing health care services by allowing the states to erect new unjustified barriers to health care services. This makes no sense at all especially given the fact that hearing aids are a tremendously beneficial yet dramatically underutilized medical devices. Indeed, the AARP recently wrote that although almost everyone with a hearing loss hears better with a hearing aid, only 20% of those who need a hearing aid have one.

Please don't let the FDA propose this new rule. It's bad for the hearing impaired and bad for small business hearing health providers. Please use your influence, urging that this proposed rule be rejected. I would greatly appreciate a copy of any letter you send on behalf of myself and the hearing impaired that I serve.

Respectfully yours,


Mr. Ronald Jenkins

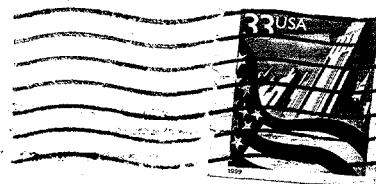
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R. Roald Jenkins
VANCED INSTRUMENTS
34 Tennessee St.
Allejo, CA 94590



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The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

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